

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of determining ~~the presence of a point of interest~~ ~~a~~ ~~concentration~~ of an aldehyde in a test sample ~~which is higher, equivalent or lower than a point of interest of the aldehyde wherein the point of interest is an effective concentration of the aldehyde~~ comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting the aldehyde in the test sample with an amount of MBTH ~~to produce an azine, wherein said amount is sufficient to the amount of MBTH that reacts with the aldehyde to the point of interest to produce an azine;~~

(b) ~~producing a first color if the concentration of said aldehyde is higher or equivalent to the point of interest; or~~

(c) ~~producing a second color different from the first color by oxidizing any unreacted MBTH, and forming a formazan by reacting the azine and the oxidized MBTH if the concentration of said aldehyde is lower than the point of interest;~~

~~oxidizing MBTH with an oxidant;~~

~~reacting the azine and the oxidized MBTH to form a formazan and produce a color change;~~

(d) ~~observing the color in the test sample after the above two reaction and oxidizing steps; and~~

(e) ~~determining whether the presence of an excess effective concentration of aldehyde is present in the test sample to the point of interest by observation of the color of the test sample.~~

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the color in the test sample is blue, green, yellow or any combination thereof.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the oxidant is selected from the group consisting of ferric chloride, potassium ferricyanide, lead tetraacetate and periodic acid.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the oxidant is ferric chloride.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the aldehyde is glutaraldehyde.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the oxidant is mixed with the test sample at the same time as the MBTH reacts with the aldehyde.

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7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the oxidant is added to the test sample after the MBTH reacts with the aldehyde.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising drawing up a fixed volume of an aldehyde-containing test sample before or during the reaction of aldehyde with MBTH.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising loading the fixed volume to a measuring device having a gas or vapor permeable but liquid impermeable membrane.

10. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising loading the fixed volume to a measuring device containing said MBTH or FeCl_3 .

11. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising applying the aldehyde in the test sample to an absorbent material.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the absorbent material is a nylon membrane.

13. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the absorbent material contains MBTH or FeCl_3 .

Please cancel claims 14-33, without prejudice.

Please add the following claim:

Claim 34. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein substantially none of the second color is produced when the aldehyde is sufficient.

Claim 35. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein less of the second color is produced when the aldehyde is more than or the same as the point of interest than when the aldehyde is less than the point of interest.